

**1. Species:** Smooth Easter Daisy (*Townsendia glabella*)

**2. Status:** Table 1 summarizes the current status of this species or subspecies by various ranking entity and defines the meaning of the status.

<b>Table 1.</b> Current status of <i>Townsendia glabella</i>		
<b>Entity</b>	<b>Status</b>	<b>Status Definition</b>
NatureServe	G2N2	Imperiled: Colorado endemic; known from Archuleta, La Plata and Montezuma counties.
CNHP	S2	
Colorado State List Status	None	
USDA Forest Service	None	
USDI FWS <sup>b</sup>	None	
<sup>a</sup> Colorado Natural Heritage Program.		
<sup>b</sup> US Department of Interior Fish and Wildlife Service.		

The 2012 U.S. Forest Service Planning Rule defines Species of Conservation Concern (SCC) as “a species, other than federally recognized threatened, endangered, proposed, or candidate species, that is known to occur in the plan area and for which the regional forester has determined that the best available scientific information indicates substantial concern about the species’ capability to persist over the long-term in the plan area” (36 CFR 219.9). This overview was developed to summarize information relating to this species’ consideration to be listed as a SCC on the Rio Grande National Forest, and to aid in the development of plan components and monitoring objectives.

**3. Taxonomy**

Genus/species *Townsendia glabella* is accepted as valid (ITIS 2015).

**4. Distribution, abundance, and population trend on the planning unit [12.53.2,3,4]:**

This species is not known to occur on the RGNF, but vouchers have been collected both east and west of the forest. Three voucher specimens have been collected two km east of the forest boundary in Rio Grande County, between Green Ridge and Fulcher Gulch, just north of the Conejos county line. About 25 voucher specimens have been collected in Archuleta County, with the closest being 10 km southwest of the forest boundary. Scattered others have been collected in La Plata County and San Juan County (NM).

Based on this proximity, it is likely that the species occurs on the forest even if it has not yet been documented there. However, in the absence of sightings on the planning unit, abundance cannot be calculated. Similarly, lack of monitoring data prevents any estimates of trend from being made, even in places where the species is known to occur.

**Table 2. Known Occurrence Frequency within the Planning Area (NRIS database)**

<b>Known Occurrences in the past 20 years</b>	0
<b>Year Last Observed</b>	N/A

**5. Brief description of natural history and key ecological functions [basis for other 12.53 components]:**

This species has been collected on ponderosa pine woodlands with oakbrush understory, as well as Pinyon juniper forests. Some of the sites are sloped 15 degrees or more, including at least a few on south facing slopes. Much of the collections information mentions the species in relatively open areas with bare soil, including shale and shale-derived soils. The Colorado Natural Heritage Program reports that the species is found only on the Smokey Hill Members of the Mancos Bay, Oyster Beds.

Overlaying locations where vouchers were collected with a base map of the area shows the majority of the collection outside or on the edge of forested areas. Most of the sites are in valleys or other low places rather than on the surrounding slopes or ridges.

In Colorado the Smooth Easter Daisy appears to be little studied. Other than the notes contained within herbarium records and inferences from known locations the Forest Service was unable to obtain any information regarding what species are associated with this species.

**6. Overview of ecological conditions for recovery, conservation, and viability [12.53 7, 9?, 10, 11, 12] including Threats and Risk Factors:**

Knowledge of threat and risk factors is limited, the only known threat to the species is residential development. Other potential risks to the species are recreation, grazing, and road maintenance. Without known sightings on the planning unit, the seriousness of any of those threats to any populations of this species that might occur on the planning unit cannot be established with any certainty.

**7. Key literature:**

Colorado Natural Heritage Program (CNHP). 2015. Element Occurrence Records for *Astragalus missouriensis* Nutt. Var. *humistratus* Isely (Missouri milkvetch). Unpublished data stored on U.S. Forest Service Geographic Information Systems Servers. Compiled onto USFS Servers from CNHP database February 2015.

Integrated Taxonomic Information System (ITIS). 2015. Online database. <http://www.itis.gov/> Accessed September 2, 2015.

Intermountain Region Herbarium Network. 2015. Consortium of Intermountain Herbaria, in collaboration with the Southwestern Environmental Information Network ([SEINet](http://seinet.org/)). Online database: <http://intermountainbiota.org/portal/collections/index.php?catid=1> Accessed August 20, 2015.

NatureServe, 2015. NatureServe Explorer. Online database. <http://explorer.natureserve.org/index.htm> Accessed September 2, 2015.